



LGBTQIA+ Rainbow Commission - Minutes

Date: Thursday July 20, 2023

Time: 6:30 pm

Location: Conducted by Hybrid Participation -Arlington Community Center HHS Conference Room and via Zoom

This will be a hybrid meeting. Individuals may choose one of the following in-person or virtual options:

Attend in person in the 2nd Floor HHS Conference Room at the Community Center (Senior Center), 20 Academy Street/27 Maple Street. Registration not required for in-person attendance.

2. *Notice to the Public on meeting privacy* In the interests of preventing abuse of videoconferencing technology (i.e. Zoom Bombing) all participants, including members of the public, wishing to engage via the Zoom App must register for each meeting and will notice multi-step authentication protocols. Further, members of the public who wish to participate without providing their name may still do so by registering to receive the meeting info and using the telephone dial in information provided.

Present: Susan Ryan-Vollmar, Lisa Krinsky, Kari Sasportas, Molly Blaauw-Gillis

Absent: Helene Newberg, Paloma Cotton-Herman, Andy Robinson, Kym Goldsmith

Liaisons: Julia Starkey, Len Diggins

Guests: none

Minutes

1. Remote Participation Statement and Guidelines
2. Land Acknowledgement
3. Review and approval of May 2023 Minutes – no quorum; will review in August
4. Working Group Updates
 - a. Education -Rainbow Alliance GSA end of year gathering; finalizing dates for next year's events. Discussion with HRC learning/education workgroup for Fall event. Healthy Youth Act Coalition– preparing for disruption when new statewide guidelines are released. Opportunity for Arlington to share our approaches with other communities as a model.
 - b. Community Engagement –Review of Pride; will discuss 2024 planning in Fall. Town Day Saturday September 23rd – need to register; prepare

Commission materials, Commissioners to sign up. Rainbows Across Communities Saturday July 29th. APD requests that Rainbow Commission table at National Night Out on August 1st.

- c. Town Systems & Policies – Equity audit follow up; still waiting on HRC/MEI results.
 - d. Communications – Will prepare Rainbow Commission materials for Town Day; HRC great materials and model based on those.
 - e. Budget – no report tonight
5. Liaison Updates
- a. Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)
 - i. MBTA Communities Working Group Office Hours at Robbins Library and outreach at the Farmer's Market
 - ii. Conducting a Res. Beach MobiChair photoshoot with resident who used the beach wheelchair (in collaboration with Disability Commission and Recreation Dept.)
 - iii. DEI bought some handheld translator tools they will be piloting Sept/Oct. Front desk counters such as DPW, Inspectional Services, Select Board, Clerk, Libraries, and Community Center will be part of the pilot. Translates text, images, voice, etc. Will report on findings afterwards.
 - b. Police Department (APD)
 - i. National Night out is August 1 at 5pm at the Thompson School, <https://natw.org/> National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. REQUEST RAINBOW COMMISSION TO TABLE.
 - ii. APD has been working with several religious leaders in Town to conduct safety assessments at Houses of Worship.
 - iii. Department wide Active Shooter training will be conducted during the last week of July at the Stratton School.
 - iv. Police Officers with last names that begin with H-R are in the process of being recertified through the POST Commission.
 - v. Four new police candidates started the Lynnfield MPTC Police Academy on 7/17/23. They have an expected graduation date in December
 - c. GSA/QSA-AHS/Ottoson/Gibbs – no report
 - d. Library
 - i. Thursday, August 10 7:00-8:45 p.m. Founded in the 1970s in a New York City apartment, The Lesbian Herstory Archives is now the world's largest collection of materials by and about lesbians. For more than 40 years, the all-volunteer organization has striven to combat lesbian invisibility. Now it faces challenges with new leaders & technology. The Archivettes is a tribute to second-wave feminism and intergenerational connection, as well as an urgent rallying cry for continued activism in a politically charged moment.

- ii. Queer Book Group Wednesday, September 27th 7:00-8:00 p.m.
Book title to be announced. Check the Robbins Library webpage for updates (<https://www.robbinslibrary.org/services/book-film-groups/>).
- e. Select Board – no report
- f. Council on Aging
 - i. Tuesday July 25th at 2PM in person only, ARL Senior Center, monthly crafting event
 - ii. Saturday July 29th from 12:30-2:30 Rainbows Across Communities Picnic Gathering, Spy Pond Park, ARL, see below
 - iii. Link to the July 2023 Arlington CoA Newsletter:
<https://www.mycommunityonline.com/publication-page/arlington-council-on-aging-02476?selectedPublication=https://container.parishesonline.com/bulletins/06/5053/20230701N.pdf>
- 6. Public Engagement and Open Commentary – none.
- 7. Close and Next Meeting. Thursday, August 17, 2023. 6:30pm Hybrid.